Japan has agreed to explore the possibility of their cooperation in revival proposal of HFC, subject to two conditions, viz guarantee issued by the Government of India and its confirmation of the revival as a priority project;

(b) if so, when was such letter received by HFC, and the follow up action taken, so far;

(c) whether the Prime Minister has assured involvement of KRIBHCO in revival of Gorakhpur plant; and

(d) if so, what prohibits the Govenment to ensure involvement of IFFCO in restoring Haldia Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A letter dated 25.10.1996 from the Export-Import Bank of Japan was received by Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) on 28.10.96. The matter is under examination in the Government.

(c) In April 1996, KRIBHCO had undertaken a pre-feasibility study of the establishment of a new standard sized Ammonia Urea plant, utilising the existing infrastructure of the Gorakhpur unit of Fertilizer Corporation of India (FCI), which was in operation till June, 1990. The reference to the revival of the Gorakhpur unit was made by the Prime Minister on 10.8.1996.

(d) In order to optimise the achievement of its corporate objectives, IFFCO, a multi-State Cooperative, has evolved its investment strategy, which does not include an investment in the revival of the Haldia project.

Environmental awareness in Schools

3035. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have chalked out any concrete programme for Environmental Awareness in Schools in the country so far a cleaner and safer future for children;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a National Conference Prgramme for Environmental Awareness in Schools organised by PEAS, a Bangalore based, nation wide schools organisation recently in New Delhi as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 4th December, 1996; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard to make our future generation in schools aware of the dieconsequences of Environmental crisis on which safety of lives of million of people depends?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) As reported by the Ministry of Environment & Forests, a Scheme aimed at educating children about their immediate environment and creating awareness, through field visits and demonstrations, and about the importance and role of various factors in eco-system, has been launched. The school children will be actively involved in the implementation of the scheme through a network of Eco-clubs.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government proposes to continue providing assistance under this Scheme, through a network of Eco-clubs in the near future. In the National Policy on Education, 1986, Environmental Education has been made an integral part of the curricula at all stages of Education. The State Governments/Union Territories are provided assistance for reviewing and developing the texts with a view to incorporating environmental matters.

रद्द की गई रेलगाड़ियों को पुनः चालू किया जाना

3036. **श्रीमती मालती शर्मा:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) देश में पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान रद्द की गई रेलगाड़ियों की संख्या क्या है;

(ख) इन रेलगाड़ियों को रद्द किए जाने के क्या कारण हैं;

(ग) क्या सरकार रद्द की गई इन रेलगाड़ियों को पुनः चालू करने का विचार रखती है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सतपाल महाराज): (क) से (घ) सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

UGC's Decision to Implement Reservation

3037. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a new-item published in the Hindustan Times dated 25th November, 1996, captioned "Quota policy puts UGC in a spot";

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating whether the research scholars and the adhoc teachers of University were the worst affected by the UGC's decision;

(c) whether any Cabinet approval was given to UGC or any Act of Parliament passed to implement the "National Reservation Policy";

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the present reservation quota which the Central Universities are required to follow in respect of SCs and STs posts of whether candidates belonging thereto are actually available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission, the Commission at its meeting held on July 31, 1996 considered the status of implementation of reservation policy in favour of SCs/STs in Central Universities and Deemed-to-be-Universities. The decisions arrived at the meeting have been communicated to the Central and Deemed-to-be-Universities by the University Grants Commission, on October 16, 1996 which is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) to (e) According to the guidelines issued by the University Grants Commission, as periodically reiterated, the Central Universities are required to follow the Reservation Policy laid down by the Government for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Commission has also advised them to launch Special Drive to fill up the unfilled seats reserved for SCs/STs. Since the Reservation Policy has Constitutional mandate, it is required to be followed by Central/Deemed Universities also.

Statement

UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION
35, FEROZESHAH ROAD,
NEW DELHI-110001.

No. F. 1-8-96(SCT)

16.10.1996

The Registrar,

All Central Universities/Deemed Universities

Subject:-*Implementation of reservation policy for Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes in Central Universities—Regarding.*

Sir,

At its meeting held on 31st July, 1996 the Commission considered the Status of implementation of the reservation policy in favour of the SCs/STs in Central Universities and Deemed to be Universities maintained by UGC and, interalia, decided as under:—

1. Greater thrust should be given for the implementation of reservations in admissions particularly in the courses in specialised disciplines. This would help in